

Reign Hellfire

by

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FADE IN

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE - NIGHT

PAN up to the door of the house where Michael, a family man, is out taking out garbage. He walks to the front of his house where he lifts the lid of the garbage can and dumps it in. He hears the door to house creek slightly, but figures it was only the wind. He goes inside and out of nowhere has a cold hand covering his mouth while a distorted voice talks.

???

Don't move, don't scream.
Just listen.

Michael is scared now but controls his temper. Through muffled talking, he complies, and the mouth uncovers his face. He turns around to see a figure in a dark blue metallic suit.

???

You're Michael Cox,
right?

MICHAEL

Y-y-yes, I am...

???

I saw what happened to
your wife yesterday. I
send you my dearest
condolences.

Michael starts tearing up. His wife was recently murdered by police despite her and bystanders' pleas to stop.

MICHAEL

Please, don't. I can't
take it anymore. All I
have left are my kids.
Please don't take them.
What do you want from me?

???

I want your blessing for
something.

Michael perked his ears and wiped his tears. He became focused

???

Got your attention, do I?

MICHAEL

Yeah, I don't understand? Are you a cop or something, cause I can't take any-

???

Trust me, I'm not a nark. What kind of cop sports a mechanical suit? I'm sure not even the military has this type of tech.

MICHAEL

Yeah, no cop would wear that, or even deserve to. But why are you here?

???

I know what it's like to lose a loved one. I used to live a couple blocks from here. During the riots 25 years ago, I was orphaned for a time until my extended family came for me. My parents were killed during that time.

Michael is still on the defense, but is more comfortable listening to the mysterious figure

??? (con'd)

Unlike you though, I couldn't get proper justice for their deaths. But I'm giving you that choice now.

MICHAEL

What choice?

The mysterious figure inhales and exhales deeply as the tension builds in the room. Michael was waiting in fear and anticipation.

???

Let me ask you
something, be completely
honest with me.

MICHAEL

I will, I will. Just
please don't hurt me.

???

I won't. I can tell
you're already broken;
I'm not trying to
crumble your spirit into
more shards. What do you
want done to that
officer?

MICHAEL

I... I want him taken to
jail... forever.

???

Is that all? Does a part
of you want him... dead?

MICHAEL

Excuse me?

???

I said what I said. You
heard that correctly.
Do. You. Want. Him.
Dead?

MICHAEL

Yes. I do, but I'm not a
murderer, I can't kill
someone. My wife wouldn't
want me to stoop that

low, no matter how much
the cynical part of me
wants him 6 feet under.

???

You wouldn't have too.
You can still get your
desires fulfilled and
respect your wife's
wishes because I'd do
it.

MICHAEL

Oh no, I can't ask you to
do that. But I mean, how
would you be able to?

???

With these.

The mysterious figure starts flaunting their weapons: micro
missiles, lasers, disposable gadgets, and other mechanisms.
Michael is about to scream from fear but is shushed by the
mysterious figure again. They give the warning not to scream,
and Michael quickly calms down.

???

So, are we good to go. I
won't force you to give
me the green light to
kill him. But I promise,
he WILL NOT get off free.
The choice is yours.

Michael contemplates for a second. Out the corner of his eye, he
sees family portraits involving his deceased wife and his kids.
Against his better judgement, he answers.

MICHAEL

Lord forgive me for what
I'm about to do.
Alright, I accept.

???

I thought you would.
Everyone deserves to be
avenged and no one should

have that option revoked
by the system. I promise
that any and all spilled
blood is on me, not you.
Besides, I know I'll love
the attention.

The mysterious figure sticks their hand out for a handshake.

???

I'll make sure the
message to the public is
clear.

Michael lets out a sigh of worry and relief. He clenches his
eyes shut and opens them as he shakes their hand. As they
finish, a car pulls up in the driveway. Michael recognizes it's
his kids coming back from their job.

???

I'll head out through
the back. If someone
finds out, you're
busted, and I have other
people to help.

Michael understands and helps the mysterious figure by escorting
them to the back of the house. They prepare to take off, but
Michael grabs their arm before they could.

MICHAEL

Forgive me, but I got to
ask you something.

???

Clocks ticking.

MICHAEL

I know, but who are you
and why are you doing
all this?

The mysterious figure nudges Michael's hand off their arm and
turns their back toward him. They exhale briefly.

???

Why am I doing this?
Well, I hate it when
wild animals aren't kept
in check, so I feel
sometimes you just got
to put them down. So no
other lives are harmed.
They're just sheep in
wolves' clothing.

MICHAEL

I see...

???

As to who I am? Call me..
Azrael.

Michael's eyes widen as that name has major significance to him.
He hears the front door lock starts to turn and is on alert.

AZRAEL

Stay safe Michael. For
them.

AZRAEL takes off and leaves the premises. Michael takes a second
to process what had happened. Just then, the front door opens,
and both of his sons come inside the house. They ask if he's ok
and Michael assures them everything will be fine.

FADE OUT

THE END